

INDY INSIGHT

Victories, Visions & Views

RICHARD L. ROUDEBUSH VA MEDICAL CENTER, INDIANAPOLIS, INDIANA

FEBRUARY 2016

PEOPLE • SERVICE • QUALITY • STEWARDSHIP

WAKEMAN VA CLINIC OPENS AT CAMP ATTERBURY



On February 1, VA staff welcomed their first Veteran to the Wakeman Camp Atterbury Clinic in Edinberg, Ind. In 2014, leaders in the National Guard at Camp Atterbury, U.S. Army, and Indianapolis VA responded to the need for a local outpatient clinic in the Camp Atterbury area. They developed a plan to work together to renovate space, hire staff, and prepare for patients.



The new outpatient clinic will provide primary medical and mental health care, physical therapy and specialty services to Veterans in Johnson, Bartholomew, and Brown County. Over the next few years, the VA hopes to add Optometry, Ophthalmology, Audiology, and X-ray working in partnership with medical services on the post.

Naming of this VA Clinic

Camp Atterbury is a National Guard training facility, named for Brigadier General William Atterbury, a Veteran of WW I. Construction on Camp Atterbury began shortly after Pearl Harbor (Dec. 7, 1941) when 1,500 wooden buildings were created to house soldiers (photo). The Wakeman General and Convalescent Hospital was named after Col. Frank Wakeman, an IU Medical School graduate and director of the training program for the U.S. Army Medical Department who passed away during the war. With 6,000 inpatient beds, the hospital became the largest hospital of its kind in the United States.

SABR of the Liver

An effective and safe non-invasive treatment for cancer of the liver is now available at Richard L. Roudebush VA Medical Center

Submitted by Stephanie Lefebvre, Radiation Oncology Manager

Stereotactic Ablative Radiotherapy (SABR) has been used for the last fourteen years to successfully treat cancers of the lung and is currently considered the standard of care for inoperable early-stage lung cancer. Recent data (much of it from our academic affiliate, Indiana University) published over the last five years illustrate its ability to



Dr. Ronald Shapiro, Radiation Oncologist

locally control tumors of the liver in select patients with minimal side effects. Cancer in the liver can either arise from the liver itself or spread through the bloodstream from another organ. Hepatocellular carcinoma, the most common primary cancer of the liver, tends to occur in patients with chronic liver disease/cirrhosis due to alcoholism, hepatitis B or C, or nonalcoholic fatty liver disease (associated with diabetes, obesity, hypertension), all common conditions found in our Veteran population.

Traditionally, these tumors have been treated with surgery but many of these patients cannot (or choose not to) have an operation. With SABR, patients may go from diagnosis through treatment of their liver cancers without anything more invasive than a blood draw.

SABR techniques allow a high dose of radiation to be localized to the tumor and spare the remaining sections of functioning liver. A highly skilled team of professionals which include radiation therapists, radiation dosimetrists, and medical physicists works with the physician to ensure highest quality patient care. If you have any questions on whether a patient would be a good candidate for SABR, please contact us at 317-988-3011, and we will be happy to discuss further.

KUDOS *for* Indianapolis VA Medical Library

Submitted by Linda Bennett, Chief Librarian, Medical Library

A Veteran, sitting in one of the easy chairs reading a book, recently, shared a compliment with staff for our library: ***“The Library is a good place to go between appointments. Nice place to relax. Thank you for having such a nice Library!”***

MEDICAL LIBRARY

The VA Medical Library provides resources and services to meet the Medical Center’s knowledge-based information needs for patient care, education, research, and management. The library serves all staff, including physicians, nurses, students, employees, patients and their families.

- The Library maintains a web page on the Indianapolis VA Intranet from which the library’s online card catalog can be accessed. The library also provides web based access to over 7000 full text journals and 21,000 eBooks and has access to nearly 50 databases including: Medline, CINAHL, PsycInfo, DynaMed Plus, UpToDate, Lexicomp and Clinical Key. Selected subject based resources including pharmacy, dentistry, patient safety, and social work are also included on the library site.

INTERNET BASED RESOURCES

Resources are available through the Library’s intranet home page: The library URL is <http://vaww.indianapolis.med.va.gov/services/lib/index.htm>. The Library web page is also accessible by selecting the Library link on the right of the Indianapolis Intranet homepage.



VA staff (left-right): Michele Wagner, Acting Chief of LRS, Connie Kotefka, Simulation Coordinator, and Janet Lutz, Clinical Education Specialist.

Congratulations, Andrea Meredith, NP!

Veteran's letter results in national recognition



The VA Secretary, Deputy Secretary and Interim Chief of Staff recognized VA employees from across the nation thanking them for their dedicated work each and every day that provides benefits and services to Veterans and their families. Congratulations to Andrea Meredith, NP, from Peripheral Vascular who was highlighted from Indianapolis as providing Veterans with outstanding care!

The recognition came as the result of a letter sent from a Marine Vietnam Veteran who thanked Andrea and the medical center staff for his care and treatment.

February is Low Vision Awareness Month

Submitted by Debra McConnaha OD and Deanna Austin LSW, CVRT

A Low vision may cause difficulty reading, recognizing faces, driving, or walking. People with low vision need help to do things like fix food, shave, or take medicines. Some causes may be macular degeneration, diabetes, glaucoma, a head injury, or stroke.

Low vision care is also known as vision rehab. If you have low vision, you may need to learn to do a task differently. Changing the print size, lighting, or adding special colored filters may help those with low vision read easier.

Vision therapy may help people be self-reliant in spite of vision loss. Roudebush VA Medical Center has this therapy. Veterans may get an eye exam in the eye clinic. Those with low vision can make a vision rehab appointment. More services are available with the Visual Impairment Services Team (VIST) clinic for Veterans with major vision loss.

Contact the VA eye clinic at (317) 988-2563 or for severe vision loss contact the VIST coordinator, Deanna Austin, at (317) 988-2576.





Pharmacy Technician of the Quarter Award

*Congratulations,
Mary Maher!*

Mary was selected Pharmacy Technician of the Quarter for exemplifying the CREW characteristics of Civility, Respect, and Engagement in the Workplace.

Indiana VA Medical Centers and INSPECT Program partner to serve Veterans

Submitted by Christina A. White, PharmD, MBA, BCPS, Acting Chief, Pharmacy Service

Director of INSPECT, Michael Brady, INSPECT staff and officials from Indiana VA medical centers met on Thursday, January 21, to discuss a collaboration that will improve healthcare for Indiana Veterans.

VA medical centers will soon begin reporting their controlled substance prescription information in the INSPECT program to equip healthcare professionals to provide the highest quality care for Veterans in the state.

“We at the Professional Licensing Agency are eager to assist VA in their mission,” said Michael Brady, Director of INSPECT. “As we move forward with this process, we are honored to partner with VA medical centers in Indiana.”

The initiative will provide doctors across the state with more accurate information about their Veteran patients. It will also facilitate increasingly beneficial prescribing habits among physicians both in VA facilities and throughout the rest of Indiana.

INSPECT and VA officials will continue to work together to ensure a smooth transition into this new partnership.



Dine on 9



Dine on 9 is held quarterly, where 10 employees are randomly selected and invited to have lunch on the 9th floor with members of the Executive Leadership team. Interim Director Dr. Ginny Creasman, Acting Associate Director Cathy Lee-Sellers, Acting Assistant Director Dr. Marshall Jones and staff recently enjoyed a barbecue lunch and great conversation.

Woo Hoo Cookies for You!!!



Each month, a service is acknowledged with fresh-baked cookies, nutritious snacks, and much fanfare. This program is sponsored by the Recognition Committee. Look for the Woo Hoo squad to come to your area. *Your team might be next!*

Indy VAMC “Goes Red” Kickoff Event

Wednesday, Feb. 10



Valentines and “heart healthy” messages on the cafeteria’s windows



Event activities:

Fresh strawberries dipped in hot fudge were served to kickoff the event. A heart healthy cooking demo and wellness information was on the 1st floor by the agent cashier office. A body mass index and blood pressure screening table attracted people in the atrium. VA staff wore RED in support of women’s heart health.



STANDARD OF THE MONTH - FEBRUARY

Commitment to Coworkers: Teamwork

We are linked to one another by common purpose: serving our Veterans and our community.
This commitment must be reflected in our respect for each other.

Welcome New Employees

Santiago Almendarez	Patrick McKee
Jill Anderson	Jessica McVey
Sandra Balance-Cortes	Raymond Moore
Kenneth Bartlett	Megan Murphy
Katti Bates	Charles Neal
Byron Blunt	Ursula Neal
Meranda Breedlove	Autumn Nelson
Wayne Campbell	Autumn Nelson
Terri Danielson	Vicki Norwood
Judith Davis	Rebecca O'Bryan
Mackenzie Davis	Jeremy Phelps
Carolyn Debliek	James Retherford
Cedrick Edwards	Mendy Richardson
Jared Ferguson	Anthony Sanders
Rhonda Fraiss	James Schneider
Tracy Harvy	Emanuel Starks
Adam Hengstler	Gary Trabue
Catherine Herod	Andrea Wheatley
Nina Jacobs	Dashona Williams
Mackenzie Maloney	Morgan Williams

PRESIDENTS' DAY 2016

*In honor of George Washington, born on February 22, 1732,
who became the first President of the United States.*



*In 1775 George Washington lead the Continental Army into the American Revolution,
which resulted in Great Britain's surrender in 1781.*

George Washington's crossing of the Delaware River, which occurred on the night of December 25–26, 1776, during the American Revolutionary War, was the first move in a surprise attack organized by George Washington against the Hessian forces in Trenton, New Jersey on the morning of December 26. Planned in partial secrecy, Washington led a column of Continental Army troops across the icy Delaware River in a logistically challenging and dangerous operation. Other planned crossings in support of the operation were either called off or ineffective, but this did not prevent Washington from surprising and defeating the troops of Johann Rall quartered in Trenton. The army crossed the river back to Pennsylvania, this time laden with prisoners and military stores taken as a result of the battle. (en.wikipedia.org · Text under CC-BY-SA license)



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